
BACKGROUND

The [Braddock District Council of Community Associations](#) (BDC) provides a forum for representatives of residential community associations within the Braddock district of Fairfax County (FFC), Virginia (VA), to express their views on major issues of common concern. The BDC is a section 501(c) (4) non-profit corporation, with geographic boundaries coterminous with the Braddock magisterial district. Meetings of the BDC are open to representatives of all homeowner, tenant, and civic associations in the Braddock District. Meetings are held from 7:30 – 9:00 P.M. on the second Tuesday of each month, except July and August, in the meeting hall at the [Braddock District Supervisor's Office](#), at the north end of the Kings Park Library (in Burke, VA).

The mailing address is: Braddock District Council, c/o Braddock District Supervisor's Office, 9002 Burke Lake Road, Burke, VA 22015-1608. The office telephone number is: 703.425.9300.

Chairman: Bob Cosgriff (Hickory Farms) 703.764.0720 bandjcoz@cavtel.net
Vice-Chairman: Janice Hedetnyemi (Oak Hill) 703.978.8095 JanyceNH@cox.net
Treasurer: Ivan Dietrich (Little Run) 703.323.1881 IvanDietrich@aol.com
Recording Secretary: Jeffrey Nolan (Bonnie Brae) 703.867.4761 infosec@technologist.com
Corresponding Secretary: Brenda Cammauf (Heritage Court) 703.750.3730 email not provided

ATTENDEES:

The list is provided separately.

AGENDA (all times P.M.)

7:30 Welcome and remarks by Chairman Cosgriff
7:35 Comments by Supervisor Bulova
7:45 Presentation: "AAA Services" by Ms. Grace Starbird, from the Fairfax Area Agency on Aging
8:15 Business Meeting:
 Treasurer's Report,
 Approval of Minutes,
 BDC Survey Discussion,
 New Business
9:00 Adjourn

SUMMARY

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bob Cosgriff at 7:30 P.M.

Sharon Bulova (SB): I've circulated some handouts here in the room. The first item is something that is also in the Braddock District Council newsletter. It concerns the Community Dialog on Gang Activity & Revitalization in the Heritage / Annandale area of Braddock District.

SB: The next item concerns the Burke Centre library. The property had been purchased about 5 years ago. This November there will be a bond referendum for library construction, which will include this library. For those interested in what the library will look like and operate like, this is the first artist's rendering, for public comment. The meeting will be on 24 February. Details are in the newsletter.

SB: The next topic is the Best of Braddock (BOB) award. Recognize a person or organize a person who has had a positive impact on the Braddock District. The award is presented at the June picnic.

☒ SB: We had something come before the BOS yesterday showing where many new bus shelters are coming. The Braddock district had 4, two of which were deleted for various reasons. My request to you is

to look around your neighborhood bus stops and communicate to me where bus shelters may be a good idea. I caveat that utility problems may preclude a certain location that would otherwise appear ideal. Please include this in your community newsletter.

SB: Remember that the budget is published on 23 February. Tradition is to discuss the county executive's budget submission at the BDC March Meeting, which is March 9 this year.

SB: Gerry Connolly's transportation initiative is to increase bond sales to add to the transportation bond we already had scheduled this September. It is a well rounded package. It includes construction money for the Burke Centre Virginia Railway Express (VRE) parking facility, intersection improvements at Ravensworth Road, Braddock Road, and Route 123, etc. \$50M bond capacity would be added, and it would include some federal money.

Janyce Hedetniemi (JH): The transportation story was in today's newspaper.

Man: Is this similar to the pushing back of library funding to finance transportation, as done by Tom Davis about 9 years ago?

SB: No.

Art Wells (AW): I read you in the newspaper today that you were a little perturbed by the Woodson High School funding issue.

SB: Yes. We need to keep that capital project moving forward.

SB: On February 18 at Little River Glen there will be a meeting to discuss a senior care center.

Supervisor Bulova had to depart to speak at George Mason University. Bob Cosgriff then introduced the guest speaker, Ms. Grace Starbird, from the Fairfax Area Agency on Aging (AAA).

Grace Starbird (GS): We are known as the Triple-A. I will talk about our services tonight, and the requirements for those services, as well as other community resources. I also have information for community organizations that would like to invite us to speak at their meetings.

GS: AAA serves residents age 60 and older and their care givers. We are part of Family Services. We serve Fairfax County (FFC), Fairfax City, and Falls Church.

GS: I have information here for frequently called numbers (purple handout), finding your way through the Home Care maze, caregiver packet, funds meals, and transportation.

Grace Starbird then gave her slide show. The below notes refer to her separately provided slides.

GS: Information and assistance: we respond to calls, emails, and walk-ins. County and community services.

GS: Insurance counseling: The Virginia Insurance and Counseling and Assistance Program (VICAP), help with Medicare, Medigap insurance, Long-term care insurance, Medicaid, prescription assistance, other medical bills. One fully funded person with many volunteers.

GS: Workshops during the year.

GS: Home Delivered Meals Program (Meals on Wheels): Hot lunch and bag food, Cost of meals on sliding scale. Liquid nutrient (Ensure) available on prescription basis.

GS: 26,000 people receive the Golden Gazette (free) in Fairfax County. Month articles on community services, volunteer activities. Large print version started last year with a circulation of 400. We are starting a cassette tape version.

GS: Volunteer Placement: putting volunteers into programs serving seniors, e.g., Pets on Wheels, Home Delivered Meals, In-Home Services to Seniors.

GS: Visiting and Telephone Programs: Friendship seniors, socially isolated seniors. Companionship, emotional support, and links to services.

GS: Long-term care Ombudsman: teaches advocacy skills to family members and residents of nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Intervenes on behalf of nursing home residents. Provides information on complaints about nursing home facilities. Regional program, housed in FFC.

GS: Employment training prepares low-income older adults (55+) with special challenges, e.g., have not been in the work force for a long time. Number of participant slots limited by funding. Number of slots increased this past summer because federal funding increased.

GS: Volunteer In-Home Services.

GS: Assisted Transportation: when a volunteer driver cannot be found for a client who needs someone to accompany them on a errand. Gap filler. For relief of caregivers.

GS: ElderLink Care Management: provides consultation, assessment, arrangement of services and care management of seniors with multiple needs. Work in conjunction with County programs. Services available on sliding scales. Partnership with Inova Health Systems.

GS: Other Community Programs: adult and community education through FCPS, elder hostel for 55+, etc.

GS: Fun Programs: FFC Senior Centers, Senior Olympics, etc.

GS: Health related: American Red Cross, etc.

GS: Housing services: independent senior housing, public and private.

GS: Transportation Services: Seniors on the Go (cab discounts), FASTRAN for doctor appointments mid-day. MetroAccess, senior discounts on public transportation. Rides provided by volunteers.

GS: Financial Services: energy, etc.

GS: Care Management and Social Services: Care Network for Seniors.

GS: Protection: Adult Protective Services.

GS: Looking for services for senior out of the area? Call ElderCare Locator (800.677.1116) with the zip code of the senior.

GS: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/service/aaa/homepage.html or fairfax_aaa@fairfaxcounty.gov

AW: How extensive is the demand for your services?

GS: We use the federal, state, and county funds wisely. 1 of 12 FFC residents (80,000) are elderly, and is the fastest growing population segment, three times faster growth than the next closest segment. Biggest

challenge is to serve non-native English speakers. Affordable and assisted living are the biggest areas of need. There are a lot of services available, although there are gaps.

Woman: Can you tell me about the taxi program.

GS: \$50K/year couples and \$40K/singles for discount taxi vouchers. FASTRAN is limited to mid-day doctor visits and emergency needs.

Man: What are you doing to identify customer needs?

GS: We are working with systems – Geospatial Information Systems (GIS) – to gather information on where various customer groups are located.

Man: Is there a movement of seniors?

GS: Many seniors are selling their homes to younger families and moving to other areas. That is the type of stuff we are wrestling with now.

Man: I was on a retreat this past weekend and a fellow participant was someone who ran for elected office last year. He said the question he was most asked by seniors was whether DMV would remove driving privileges for seniors.

GS: There is MetroAccess for those with disabilities. Once certified by a doctor, we provide transportation curb to curb. It falls under the Americans with Disabilities Act. It is throughout region, and run by Metro.

Man: Ice-T federal legislation aimed at facilitating movement of people in communities. Includes buying easements and building trails.

Man: Maintaining a car is expensive. If one were to always take a taxi instead, without the subsidy, one would still save ½ to 1/3 of the cost of maintaining a car.

GS: We haven't really built our communities to facilitate walking. People are trying to do more pedestrian planning. I also use the Giant Peapod service from time to time.

GS: We put together a pamphlet on what communities should know regarding senior services. All the information being shared tonight is on our web page. We are an Older Americans Act Agency, so many of our services are free.

Man: What is the cutoff for Medicaid eligibility?

GS: I don't know.

Bob Cosgriff then thanked Grace Starbird for her briefing. Bob then asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting. There was a motion and it was seconded. The minutes were then approved by voice vote.

Ivan Dietrich (ID): Treasurer's Report: \$1309.74

BC: We usually receive Citizen of the Year inputs by the 29th of March. It may be a person who has done a one-time good thing or over many years. It's slightly different than the Best of Braddock (BOB) award, although it is also awarded at the June picnic.

☒ Jeff Nolan will make the Citizen of the Year nomination form available via the BDC web site.

BC: Our meeting on March 9 is our traditional budget briefing as mentioned by Supervisor Bulova. The April meeting is our traditional state legislature meeting. Our May meeting will include a briefing from the Potomac River Greenways Coalition. Pohick and Accotink Watersheds are two of the largest watersheds in our county. June 8 is our annual picnic.

Woman: May anyone attend next month's meeting on the budget?

BC: Yes.

BC: The FFC Solid Waste Management Plan is now on the county web site and comment is solicited.

BC: The Laurel Hill Task Force is really busy this month and next month, bringing the Silverbrook Road adaptive reuse recommendations to conclusion by the end of April.

BC: The President of the Middleridge Citizens Association sent me a letter regarding the high and inconsistent cost of trash pickup. My personal experience is that they over billed me, and since I had negotiated the rate for my community, I realized this and had them correct my bill. I ask for your input, but I do not believe this is a Braddock District issue.

Woman: We should make people aware of their choices. I am happiest with my 3rd garbage collecting company – Waste Management.

Jeff Nolan (JN): We had a representative from FFC waste management at a recent BDC meeting. Middleridge is welcome to attend our BDC meetings and read our minutes.

Man: The Middleridge Civic Association should get with contiguous civic associations and ask them to negotiate with Middleridge for trash pickup.

☒ BC: I will confirm with Supervisor Bulova that it is not appropriate for the BDC to negotiate rates.

AW: One thing overlooked is the extraordinary loads they had to pick up after Hurricane Isabel at no extra charge.

BC: The Kings Park West Homeowners Association has been inactive, but the 577 homeowners there are reinvigorating it. They request our assistance to tap the experience of other associations regarding dues, insurance, etc., so that they may pass info to the group that is standing up the new association. They have 44 acres of common ground.

Woman: A homeowners association is different from a civic association.

BC: In the past John Fee had personally responded to requests from homeowner associations and walked them through by-laws.

AW: Cal Wagner, guru of the FFC Citizens Associations manual, will be at the next Fairfax Federation of Citizens Associations meeting on February 19. The FFC slot for homeowners associations was cut in the early 1990's.

Man: Cal has been to several of our meetings. Florence Naeve is a real plus as well. Our Park Authority also briefed us on accepting land.

Woman: Where is the land?

Bruce Wallachy (BW): The land is off Braddock Road, on Tapestry Drive. The land backs up to properties on the left-hand side (18 acres), and to Commonwealth and Collingham streets (15-18 acres). After Hurricane Isabel, fallen trees (in the yards of residents) drew interest. People have liability.

BC: Many people bought before required BPOA disclosures, so they didn't know of the defunct homeowners association.

Man: On the subject of trees, we probably haven't had any requests from John Fee yet for dead tree replacement. Usually the BDC spends \$300-400 per year to rejuvenate Braddock Road, from Wakefield Park to Shirley Gate Road. Usually the BDC asks neighboring associations for the money. Of the new trees planted each year, usually 1/3 of them die.

IV: Is the homeowners association incorporated?

KPW: When the Kings Park West developer set up the homeowners association, it was incorporated. It was allowed to lapse, so now the land is owned in common. There are some covenant restrictions on the books. We need to change fees, bylaws, restrictions.

Woman: The national Community Associations Institute is in Alexandria. You should contact them.

Man: I'm working on a 40 year retrospective of the area inside and around Kings Park, including cultural issues, trends, and gang activity. Mike Malak and Ken Mulberg are working with me. We should have something put together by the March meeting. One new development is a proposed cell phone tower in Kings Park to gain rent on a property with a pool that is diminishing in value. We are including a 5 year look at concerns, e.g., buildings across from the interstate. If know of concerns, please help us put them into our 5 year plan.

Question: Why is the pool diminishing in value?

BW: The pool has seen a change of membership, liability insurance went up, and kids are doing something else vice going to the pool in the summer. One pool was so desperate that they even mortgaged their property.

BC: This has been a good exchange. It is one reason why we are here. Please help out KPW.

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Bob Cosgriff at 9:08 P.M.

ACRONYMS / ABBREVIATIONS

AAA	(Fairfax) Area Agency on Aging
AW	Art Wells
BC	Bob Cosgriff
BD	Braddock District
BDC	Braddock District Council
BOB	Best of Braddock (annual citizen award)
BOS	(Fairfax County) Board of Supervisors
CA	Civic Association
FFC	Fairfax County
GIS	Geospatial Information Systems
GS	Grace Starbird
HOA	Home Owners Association
JH	Janyce Hedetniemi
JN	Jeff Nolan
KPW	Kings Park West
NoVA	Northern Virginia
SB	(Braddock District Supervisor) Sharon Bulova
VA	Virginia
VICAP	Virginia Insurance and Counseling and Assistance Program
VRE	Virginia Railway Express